Coal mafias in Chhattisgarh

†409. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are aware that a large gang of coal mafia is involved in smuggling of coal in the mines of Gevara, Deepka, Kusmunda, Dhheikadeeh etc., in Korba region of Chhattisgarh;

(b) whether it is also a fact that network of coal mafias runs its own rules and regulations in mines as a result about fifty truck loads of coal is being taken out illegally everyday; and

(c) if not, the details thereof and if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) There is no specific information regarding coal mafia activities in Korba region of Chhattisgarh.

(b) and (c) Do not arise. However, whenever any irregularities are noticed, immediate corrective action is taken.

Ban on mining activities

*413. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court have issued an order banning all mining activities in the entire Aravali hills; and

(b) if so, the details of the order?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) In an order delivered on 30th October, 2002 in the WP(C) 202/1995 in the matter of TN. Godavarman Thirumulkpad, the Hon'ble Supreme Court, on the basis of the Second Monitoring Report of the Central Empowered Committee have

†Orlginal notice of the quostion was received in Hindi.